

## Message Text

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ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SS-15 L-03 NSC-05 CAB-02  
CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 DOTE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00  
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FM AMEMBASSY ATHENS  
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INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA  
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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS/ PFOR, CY, TU, GR, EAIR

SUBJ: PRESS REPORT ON ALLEGED CIA CONNECTION WITH  
TURKISH CYPRIOT AIRLINE

REF: NICOSIA 1954 (NOTAL)

1. LIBERAL OPPOSITION TO VIMA'S NEW YORK CORRESPONDENT  
STATHIS EFSTATHIADIS HAS MADE PAGE ONE AGAIN WITH A STORY IN  
TODAY'S ISSUE CLAIMING THE US IS COOPERATING WITH THE TURKS ON  
CYPRUS IN THEIR PLANS TO INCORPORATE FAMAGUSTA IN THEIR ZONE  
AND DEVELOP TOURISM THERE. IN A DISPATCH DATED NEW YORK,  
AUGUST 10, EFSTATHIADIS WRITES THAT THE US AIR TRANSPORTATION  
COMPANY "AERO AMERICA", WHICH HE ALLEGES IS A FORMER CIA  
PROPRIETARY, RENTED A BOEING 727 TO THE  
ESTABLISHED CYPRUS  
TURKISH AIRLINES (PRESUMABLY THE CYPRUS TURKISH AIRLINES  
MENTIONED IN REFTEL) TO CARRY TOURISTS TO FAMAGUSTA.

2. UNDER THE HEADLINE "DOES THE CIA SUPPORT THE AIRLINE OF  
THE TURKISH CYPRIOT?", EFSTATHIADIS CITES "RESPONSIBLE  
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AMERICAN SOURCES" AS THE BASIS OF HIS INFORMATION. HE  
CLAIMS THAT AERO AMERICA IS A CIA CREATION AND ONLY WHEN  
ITS REAL ROLE WAS DISCOVERED IN VIETNAM IN 1974 IN  
"SIMILAR UNDERTAKINGS" OF THE CIA DID IT BECOME A PRI-  
VATE CONCERN--OR "AT LEAST THAT IS WHAT THE CIA THEN  
GAVE ASSURANCES" WAS THE CASE. THE AERO AMERICA ASSIS-  
TANCE TO THE TURKISH CYPRIOT COMPANY COULD NOT OCCUR

WITHOUT THE ACQUIESCENCE OF WASHINGTON, EFSTATHIADIS CONTINUES, SINCE SUCH AN ARRANGEMENT WITH A FOREIGN AIR-LINE COULD NOT TAKE PLACE WITHOUT THE APPROVAL OF THE "MINISTRY OF TRANSPORTATION AND THE AIR TRANSPORT SERVICE" (SIC).

3. EFSTATHIADIS ADDS THAT AN AMERICAN "JUMBO" ENROUTE TO TEL AVIV LANDED IN THE TURKISH CONTROLLED SECTOR OF CYPRUS ON JUNE 18 FOR REFUELING, IGNORING GREEK CYPRIOT WARNINGS NOT TO LAND THERE. FURTHERMORE, HE MENTIONS, WITHOUT BEING SPECIFIC, THERE ARE OTHER INDICATIONS THAT US CIVIL AIR COMPANIES, AT LEAST WITH THE TOLERATION OF WASHINGTON, PLAN TO SUPPORT THE TURKISH EFFORT TO LEGITIMIZE THE TURKISH OCCUPATION IN CYPRUS.

4. FINALLY, EFSTATHIADIS CLAIMS THAT ACCORDING TO "AMERICAN SOURCES", THE COLONIZATION OF FAMAGUSTA BEGAN BEFORE ITS FORMAL ANNOUNCEMENT A MONTH AGO. HE CONCLUDED THAT THESE SOURCES FORESAW THE TURKISH ACTION WOULD SHARPEN TURKISH-GREEK TENSION ON THE ISLAND.

5. COMMENT: THE EFSTATHIADIS STORY HAS ALREADY BEEN PICKED UP TODAY BY TWO OTHER DAILIES (TO VIMA'S AFTER-NOON SISTER PAPER TA NEA AND LEFTIST ELEFThEROTYPIA) AND WE CAN EXPECT OTHERS TO REPLAY IT AS WELL TOMORROW. REGARDLESS OF HOW MUCH FURTHER ATTENTION IT  
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RECEIVES IN THE PRESS, WE CAN EXPECT THIS ALLEGATION TO BE ADDED TO THE MYTHOLOGY HERE AND CITED AS "EVIDENCE" OF US SUPPORT OF THE TURKS ON CYPRUS.  
MILLS

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## Message Attributes

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